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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE		ILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/353,896		07/16/1999	ANTHONY D. ESTES	10246/004001	4260	
26161	7590	01/14/2004		EXAMINER		
FISH & R		SON PC	CAMPEN, KELLY SCAGGS			
225 FRANKLIN ST BOSTON, MA 02110				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
				3624	Valv Haras	

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No.						1/
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ② MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of This COMMUNICATION. Entersors of time may be evaluate under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.50(a). In no event, however, may a may be timely filled 1 the period transyle souther to under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.50(b). If the period transyle souther to under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.50(b). If the period transyle specified advisor, the maintent statutory period will apply and will explore a may be submitted to the statutory period will apply and will explore a may be submitted to the period of the transyle specified advisor, the maintent statutory period will apply and will explore a may be submitted to the period of the communication of the communica						
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THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provides of 37 CFR 1.13(b). In no event, however, may a reply be linely filed after \$10,00 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. It No pend to reply a specification to reply and the provided or reply with the statutory period value of the provided or reply with the statutory period value of the provided or reply with the statutory period value of the provided or reply with the statutory period value of the communication. False to early within the set of or defended privated for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ARANDONED (38 U.S. C.§ 133). Any sety recented by the Office later than three membras deter the mailing date of the communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any covered plants term adjustment. See 57 CFR 1.09(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filled on <u>08 December 2003</u> . 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-49 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-15 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1,6-49 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 1,6-49 is/are rejected to. 8) Claim(s) 2 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: all accepted or bill objected to by the Examiner. 4 private drawing or request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is/are: all accepted or bill objected to by the Examiner. 11 provide corrected drawings are required in reply to this office action. 12 The eath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and		• •	Y IS SET TO EX	(PIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM	
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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12-8-03 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 16-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fortenberry et al. (US 6101485).

Fortenberry et al disclose a machine based method comprising sending outbound messages associated with commercial transactions; storing information related to each of the outbound messages in a database, the information being useful for completing the commercial transactions, the information not being contained in the outbound messages, analyzing inbound

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messages that result from the outbound messages and that contain response information useful in

completing the commercial transactions; identifying inbound messages that cannot be processed

automatically to generated the commercial transactions. and using the database information to

assist in exception handling of the identified inbound messages, the inbound and outbound

messages being entirely email based (see abstract).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-, 4-15 are allowed for the reasons set forth in the prior office action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly Campen whose telephone number is (703) 308-0780. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (703) 308-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Kelly S. Campen